



1771

## THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Erol Tan et al. ) PATENT APPLICATION  
Serial No.: 09/829,133 ) Attorney Docket: RAY4066P0016US  
Filed: April 9, 2001 ) Group Art Unit: 1771  
For: SOFT, STRONG, ABSORBENT ) Confirmation No. 1047  
MATERIAL FOR USE IN )  
ABSORBENT ARTICLES )  
Examiner: Christopher C. Pratt ) #8

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RESPONSE

Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action Paper No. 7, dated February 25, 2003.

TELEPHONE INTERVIEW WITH THE EXAMINER

The below-identified attorney gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended to the below-identified attorney during telephone conferences on March 11 and March 12, 2003 during which the Official Action was discussed. The below-identified attorney pointed out that a Preliminary Amendment had been concurrently filed with the application, and that Preliminary Amendment had canceled most of the claims, leaving only one independent claim, independent claim 12, and some dependent claims. The Examiner reviewed the Patent Office records and files and was able to determine that the Patent Office had indeed received the Preliminary Amendment, but

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had not entered the Preliminary Amendment. The Examiner directed the below-identified attorney to submit this Response in which all of the remaining, now pending claims are elected. The Examiner indicated that the Patent Office would enter the Preliminary Amendment.

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Based upon the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office entering the Preliminary Amendment that was filed concurrently with the application, which Preliminary Amendment canceled all of the claims except independent claim 12 and dependent claims 13, 14, 18, 21, 25, 30, 31, 32, 34, 39, 45, and 48, applicants elect all of the pending claims, namely, independent claim 12 and dependent claims 13, 14, 18, 21, 25, 30, 31, 32, 34, 39, 45, and 48. These claims do not explicitly require or exclude any particular type of layered type construction.

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An action on the merits of the elected claims, which comprise all of the claims now pending in the application, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER

By

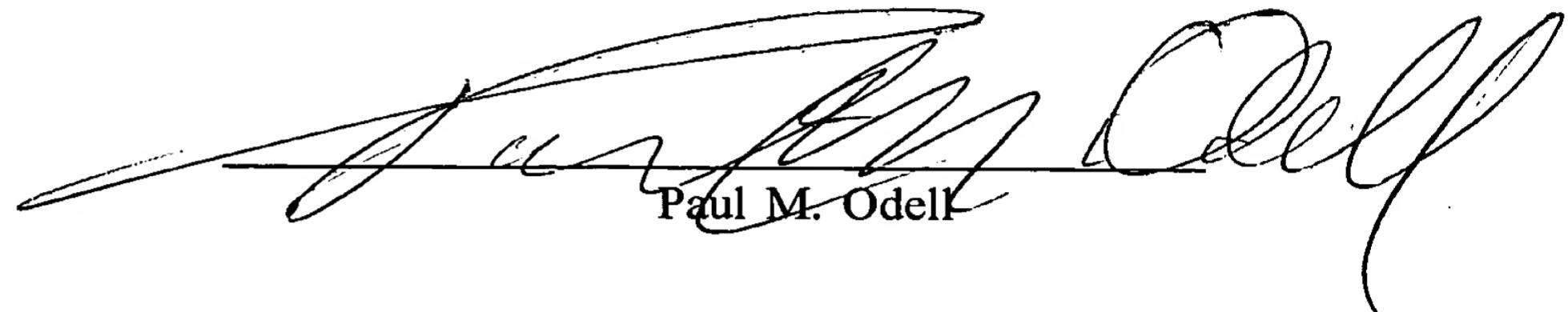
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 12, 2003.



Paul M. Odell